

**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

*Immediately following the title, please insert the following paragraph:*

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/158,398, filed September 22, 1998, which in turn claims priority to German patent application no. 197 43 100.3, filed September 30, 1997. Both applications are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.